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local or occasional reinforcement. . . . The American system developed the country more swiftly, the British the more safely."

Mr. Trimble's bibliography is well arranged and shows a thorough examination of the material, though a lack of an index is felt. The book is an interesting study of one of the most picturesque phases of our economic history.

Care and Education of Crippled Children in the United States. By EDITH REEVES. New York: Survey Associates, Inc., 1914. 8vo, pp. xi+252. \$2.00.

There is, perhaps, no field of charitable work in which the advance has been so rapid as in the care and education of crippled children. This study, done under the supervision of Dr. Hastings Hart, the director of the department of child-helping of the Russell Sage Foundation, is intended to serve as a handbook for the use of those interested in the care of crippled children. In the hope that it will be available for those actually intending to organize and carry on such work, statistics as to original costs and maintenance are thoroughly compiled.

The book concerns itself particularly with thirty-seven institutions personally investigated by the author. In these an intensive study was made of the surgical care, physical corrective work, dietetic supervision, nursing, education, and handwork and vocational training of the children. Miss Reeves points out that much of the progress is the result of the devotion and unselfishness of the orthopedic surgeons who give their time and strength to this cause with unflagging interest.

In regard to education she found that though many of the children are unable, through weakness, to study for long periods, the utmost care is taken to provide them with educational advantages adapted to their special needs. Handwork and vocational training are the most recent developments in connection with the care of crippled children. Many of the institutions have a wide variety of vocations for which they train their cripples. In almost all of them it is agreed that the needle trades—plain sewing, embroidery, and perhaps millinery—suit the girls best. No one occupation is so universal for the boys, though manual training and gardening are taught to the greatest extent. Those who have money to educate themselves have an easy problem, but they are rare.

The dedication to "the brave little people" shows how impressed Miss Reeves was with the courageous children who face life so handicapped. This brave spirit marks, not only the children, but the assistants, the doctors, and even the donors. "To witness a game of baseball in which every player wears a brace or carries a crutch and to see the life and enthusiasm which animate the game is a revelation."

As an appreciation of the work done and inspiration of work to be done, this book should bring forth much effort in its field, particularly where it is greatly needed—the rural communities.

Contemporary American History. By CHARLES A. BEARD. New York: Macmillan, 1914. 8vo, pp. vii+397. \$1.50.

Contemporary American History was written for the purpose of supplying the apparent need of a textbook embracing the leading events in American history between the Civil War and the year 1914.

Of his work, the author says: "I have made no attempt to present an artistically balanced account of the last thirty-five years, but have sought rather to furnish a background for the leading issues of current politics and to enlist the interest of the student in the history of the most wonderful period of American development." With this purpose in view he confines himself to the history of several leading movements and issues and omits all mention of events not connected with them.

The first movement discussed is restoration of the white dominion in the South amid the chaotic condition brought about by the enfranchisement of the negro. Next is given the economic revolution which occurred in the first years following the war, the leading events of which were the remarkable growth of capital, the development of the West, and the economic reconstruction of the South. A significant movement was the revolution in politics and law during the early part of this period. The author points out the change in leadership in politics from that of the old-school type of Clay and Webster to that of Conkling and Platt; these new leaders, it is said, changed the alignment of politics from purely political issues to issues affecting capital. The most important and suggestive change in the realm of law was the growth and establishment of judicial review of legislation in the various states.

Other important movements were the various political struggles centering around party issues, important federal legislation, and the growing conflict between capital and labor with its attendant problems. The period marked by the war with Spain is discussed under the topic "Imperialism," and is considered from that viewpoint. The administrations of Roosevelt and Taft and the campaign of 1912 are discussed with considerable detail.

The principal value of the work is that the author, in a single volume, has given the essence of the movements which are indicative of the current of history during the period.

Social Work in London 1869-1912. A History of the Charity Organization Society. By Helen Bosanquet. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1914. 8vo, pp. x+409. \$3.00.

The problems of a community are often most clearly seen from the records of some organization which played its part in meeting and solving them.